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COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS
Eighteenth session
23-25 January and 8-15 April 1992
Agenda items 3, 6 and 7

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS IN THE WORLD ECONOMY AND TRENDS IN FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND AGREEMENTS RELATING TO TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS CENTRE ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND ITS JOINT UNITS

Pakistan*: draft resolution

Activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations

The Economic and Social Council,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General on trends in foreign direct investment, 1/ on transnational corporations and economic growth through technology, 2/ on transnational corporations in the new world economy: issues and policy implications, 3/ on the international framework

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77.

1/ E/C.10/1992/3.

2/ E/C.10/1992/4.

3/ E/C.10/1992/5.

for transnational corporations 4/ and on the activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and of the joint units established with the regional commissions; 5/

2. Reaffirms that the Commission on Transnational Corporations and the Centre on Transnational Corporations within the Transnational Corporations and Management Division of the Department of Economic and Social Development of the Secretariat are the focal points within the United Nations system for all matters concerning foreign direct investment and the activities of transnational corporations;

3. Emphasizes the importance of the research, technical cooperation, advisory services, training programmes and information services provided by the Centre to the States Members of the United Nations and, to this end, affirms the importance of maintaining these activities and programmes as well as improving upon them, as appropriate, under the new administrative arrangements;

4. Requests the Centre to contribute towards increasing the transparency in the area of foreign direct investment by compiling and disseminating information provided by Member States, on a voluntary and regular basis, on their laws, regulations and administrative provisions in this field;

5. Takes note of the report of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting 6/ and reaffirms the importance of its work in contributing towards greater transparency in the activities of transnational corporations;

6. Requests the Centre to continue to include in its technical cooperation activities advice on and the promotion of interregional, intraregional and subregional economic integration, including the possibilities and potential for strengthening economic and technical cooperation among developing countries; in this context, further requests the Centre to examine ways and means of assisting developing countries to set up joint ventures;

7. Calls upon the developed countries to encourage transnational corporations to expand their economic activities in the developing countries and facilitate the transfer of environmentally sound technology through the adoption of innovative incentives;

4/ E/C.10/1992/8.

5/ E/C.10/1992/9.

6/ E/C.10/1992/12.

8. Requests the Centre to strengthen its activities in matters relating to the role of transnational corporations in the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, including in the transfer of environmentally sound technology, and in the setting up of joint ventures between transnational corporations and local enterprises in developing countries;

9. Requests the Centre to study the effects of deregulation and privatization policies in developing countries on attracting foreign direct investment flows and, in this context, to make appropriate recommendations thereon;

10. Takes note of the fact that the ever-increasing role of transnational corporations in the international system of production and exchange has enhanced the need for international arrangements and agreements on transnational corporations and, to this end, invites the Centre to continue its useful work in this area;

11. Encourages the Centre to strengthen and further develop the functions of the joint units established with the regional commissions, especially by developing programmes that are adapted to the needs of the respective regions;

12. Calls on all donor countries, in particular the developed countries, to provide extra financial support for the research, advisory and information work of the Centre so as to contribute further to a better understanding between transnational corporations and developing countries;

13. Requests the Centre to examine ways and means of strengthening activities in promoting foreign direct investment inflows to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and the countries in Africa that have faced a drop in foreign direct investment inflows, and to report thereon to the Commission at its nineteenth session;

14. Takes note of the conclusions of the Hague Symposium on Globalization and Developing Countries, and requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other organizations, to develop a joint programme on the interrelationship of investment, trade, technology and development, with a view to enhancing the contribution of transnational corporations to the development of developing countries through trade and investment, for consideration by the Commission at its nineteenth session.